

1914.

FAVERSHAM



Rural District Council.

TENTH

Annual Report

-- OF --

PRIDEAUX SELBY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1914.

Faversham :

A. M. EDWARDS, PRINTER. PRESTON STREET.

1915.

Committees.

HEALTH :

W. R. Dixon, Esq.	G. Branchett, Esq.
H. T. Bensted, Esq.	E. Jenkins, Esq.
H. Amos, Esq.	J. W. Videan, Esq.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT :

W. R. Dixon, Esq.	H. Amos, Esq.
H. T. Bensted, Esq.	General Jeffreys, C.B.
E. Jenkins, Esq.	W. W. Berry, Esq.

BOUGHTON WATER :

W. R. Dixon, Esq.	S. Dunkin, Esq.
H. T. Bensted, Esq.	W. W. Berry, Esq.
A. N. Burra, Esq.	G. Branchett, Esq.

FAVERSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL,

1914—1915.

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H. T. BENSTED, Esq., Vice-Chairman.

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Hernhill	H. Smith, Esq.
Leaveland	W. George, Esq.
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Stone	P. Collard, Esq.
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Clerk to the Council :

GUY TASSELL, Esq., Solicitor, Faversham.

Sanitary Inspector :

HARRY CAFFYN, A.R.S.I.

Sanitary Surveyor :

WILLIAM J. COE, Ospringe Road, Faversham.

Faversham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Tenth Annual Report which deals with the year 1914.

AREA.

The Area of the District is 44,386 acres.

POPULATION.

Owing to the influx of troops during the last three months of the year the population has been larger. There is also, probably, a slight increase in the normal population as there has been less emigration.

POPULATION & INHABITED HOUSES.

My report for 1913 included a table showing a summary of the 1911 Census.

There are no underground rooms used as workshops or sleeping places.

DEATHS.

The nett death-rate is 12·57. The corrected death-rate is 10·38, compared with 10·19 in 1913.

SANITARY WORK.

Mr. Harry Caffyn, A.R.S.I., entered on his duties as Sanitary Inspector on April 13th. He holds the certificates for meat and other food inspections, and I wish to express my appreciation of the good work he is doing in the district.

On the appointment of Mr. Caffyn as Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Coe was appointed Sanitary Surveyor, with the following duties :—
 “The supervision of the Oare and Conyer Wharves, the Staple Street and Conyer Pumps, and the flushing of the Boughton Sewers. The superintendence of the Scavenging and refuse and sewage removal and disposal in the parishes of Lynsted and Teynham and all matters connected therewith. The management of Boughton Water Works and all matters connected with the supply of water in the parishes of Boughton and Dunkirk. The supervision of the Hop-pickers’ Huts. The inspection consideration and approval of the plans and drainage of all new buildings, and that it be also his duty to prepare any plans, sections, etc., of any work the probable construction or alteration of which is under the consideration of the Rural District Council.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table gives the number of cases notified and the number admitted to Beacon Hill Hospital in each quarter for the past 17 years. This table does not include Tuberculosis.

No. of Fresh Cases Notified.						Number of Cases admitted to Beacon Hill Hospital.				
Quarter	I.	II.	III.	IV.	Total	I.	II.	III.	IV.	Total
1897	60	53	49	100	262	31	25	26	47	129
1898	90	53	45	47	235	51	20	28	18	117
1899	56	73	68	82	279	11	38	44	36	129
1900	54	58	46	76	234	30	27	24	44	125
1901	44	32	25	48	149	23	17	19	31	90
1902	35	20	43	37	135	23	9	37	14	83
1903	31	19	18	22	91	12	16	8	7	43
1904	15	6	28	16	65	12	2	21	14	49
1905	34	35	41	36	146	20	31	34	32	117
1906	24	38	22	27	111	19	26	18	15	78
1907	48	37	32	57	173	36	27	26	51	140
1908	54	41	24	49	168	47	40	23	39	149
1909	63	36	28	17	144	46	28	21	12	107
1910	13	12	14	23	62	5	6	13	22	46
1911	12	4	16	13	45	7	2	13	8	30
1912	7	13	25	38	83	6	13	24	33	76
1913	5	11	19	22	57	5	8	18	17	48
1914	22	40	38	85	185	19	31	36	56	142

At Beacon Hill Hospital there is accommodation for 36 cases, and four different diseases can be treated concurrently.

The local distribution of the cases of infectious disease notified quarterly during the year was as follows :—

Quarter	Scarlet Fever				Diphtheria				Typhoid				Erysipelas			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Badlesmere - -																
Boughton - -	2	9	2				2									
Buckland - -			1					1								
Davington - -					1	3		3					1			
Doddington - -			1													
Dunkirk - -														1		
Eastling - -					5	1	2							1		
Faversham Without					1			1						1		
Goodnestone - -																1
Graveney - -					1							1				
Hernhill - -			5				3									
Leaveland - -																
Luddenham - -							1	2				1				
Lynsted - -					1			1							1	
Newnham - -	1							2								
Norton - -								1								
Oare - -		1				1	1									
Ospringle - -			2		3	1	3									
Preston Without -					3	1	1	2								
Selling - -		3			1	1	1	1					1	1	1	1
Sheldwich - -						1										
Stalisfield - -																
Stone - -																
Teynham - -		1		2	1	11	11	65						1		
Throwley - -																
	3	14	11	2	17	20	25	79				2	2	4	2	2

There were two cases of Typhoid, an imported case at Graveney and one at Luddenham traceable to shellfish.

Cases of Tuberculosis are not included in the above list, two cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever occurred in Doddington in the second quarter.

SCARLET FEVER.

Thirty cases were notified, 21 of these were accounted for by two small outbreaks at Boughton Church School and Hernhill, and the others were scattered in ones and twos through other parishes.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

For the fifth year in succession no case was notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Eighteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and six of other forms of tuberculosis were notified in the year.

Twelve deaths occurred from the former and one from the latter.

Four of the 18 cases reported living in the district in my last report, and eight of those notified during the year 1914, have died.

Unless the practitioner attending wishes otherwise all primary notifications are visited in their homes, doubtful cases are sent to the County Tuberculosis Officer at Faversham and as many cases as possible sent to Sanatoria by the Guardians.

All rooms after deaths or removals to Sanatoria are disinfected and cleansed.

The Council possess four moveable shelters which are invaluable in assisting with outdoor treatment and isolation except in extremely cold weather.

COUNTY LABORATORY.

Full advantage has been taken of the County Laboratory at Maidstone for bacteriological examinations and water analyses. It is a matter of great satisfaction to receive prompt and early reports and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer (Dr. Greenwood) for his help and advice on many occasions.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

Two boys, aged six and seven, living at the West End, Doddington, suffering from this disease, were removed to Beacon Hill Hospital in April. The boys had not been away from home, and the sanitary condition of the cottage was good.

No other cases occurred.

I found the diplococcus in the cerebro-spinal fluid on the day after their admission to hospital and the diagnosis was afterwards confirmed by Dr. Ponder at the County Laboratory.

Both children recovered after a very long and bad illness.

SCHOOLS.

Eastling Schools now have water laid on from the mains of the Mid-Kent Water Company.

At Teynham Schools there has been an outbreak of mild diphtheria. This has continued for many months and occasional cases still occur.

The following schools were closed for health reasons during the year:—

Teynham Infants from January 20th to February 7th for measles.

Lynsted Infants from February 12th till March 7th for measles.

Boughton Church Schools from June 25th to July 6th for scarlet fever.

Teynham from June 30th to July 13th for diphtheria.

Teynham from November 23rd to December 14th for diphtheria.

The re-opening of Hernhill Schools after the summer holidays was postponed for a week owing to scarlet fever in the parish.

I have made very thorough examinations of the children in those schools affected by scarlet fever and diphtheria during the year.

On March 25th I found the cesspool at North Preston Council Schools overflowing into the playground and reported the matter to the School Medical Officer. On June 16th he wrote to me enclosing a letter from the School Surveyor, in which he stated great improvements were to be made and saying they could not be done till after August. No beginning has yet been made in this work.

DIPHTHERIA IN TEYNHAM SCHOOLS.

In the second week of June three cases of diphtheria occurred within three days of one another. They were probably infected by some child in the school whom I was unable to detect. In the last week of June five more cases occurred. On June 30th I applied to the County Medical Officer for bacteriological assistance but at that time he was unable to arrange it.

In July, August and September, eleven cases occurred scattered about the parish of Teynham, but with the school children, as foci. They were notified on July 2nd, 12th, 31st, August 8th, 16th, 23rd, and September 1st, 8th, 12th, 14th, 15th and 28th, and again on October 9th, 20th, 26th, November 2nd, 5th, 8th, 9th. These cases were scattered about the school until the beginning of November when more cases occurred in the 1st and 2nd Standards. I therefore examined all the children in those standards and swabbed thirteen throats which looked irritable but with an entirely negative result. In the following week separate cases occurred consecutively in the Infants, third, sixth, second, fourth, and fifth standards, and on November 23rd I closed the schools for a fortnight and wrote to the County Medical Officer for assistance in swabbing the whole school on their re-assembling.

On December 8th, Dr. Ponder, the Assistant County Medical Officer, and Dr. Gange, the School Medical Officer, met me at Teynham Schools. I examined every throat in the school and Dr. Ponder and Dr. Gange swabbed all those with irritable throats which I selected. 102 swabs were taken and on examination at the County Laboratory by Dr. Ponder yielded the following results :—

Diphtheria Bacillus was cultivated from 20 cases.

Organisms of doubtful morphology from 4 cases.

Seventy-three were negative.

As many as possible were removed to hospital, but all those isolated in their own homes were visited weekly and swabbed and no child was allowed to return to school until the throat had yielded two consecutive negative results.

The schools were thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before being re-opened, but in spite of all these precautions cases continued to occur till the end of February, 1915, when the disease appeared to have become attenuated and seven throats apparently diphtheritic in character yielded negative results to bacteriological examination, though there were still positive throats about. I appealed again to the County Medical Officer for advice and help, but he wrote that he was of opinion that I had done practically everything possible to check the outbreak.

Though there were no less than 102 cases in Teynham from the second week in June, 1914, till the 18th February, 1915, there was no death. Every case had 4,000 units of antitoxin before removal to hospital and the majority had from 2,000 to 10,000 units the following day. This no doubt had a most important bearing on the absence of deaths, for though the majority of cases were mild, there were several with signs of heart failure which would probably have ended fatally without the antitoxin.

BEACON HILL HOSPITAL.

The Matron, Miss Whitehouse, resigned, and Miss Basan entered on duty as Matron on March 4th.

I wish to express my appreciation of the care and attention given to the patients through a very long and strenuous period when the hospital was full, both by the Matron and the Nurses under her.

RAINFALL.

Colonel Honeyball, Mr. Walter Stunt and Mr. Ivo Neame have again kindly placed their records at my disposal. For many years

the records have shown more rain at Selling than at Teynham or Ospringe, and the Ospringe record has always been intermediate between Selling and Teynham.

		Teynham. 35-ft. above sea level.		Ospringe. 180-ft. above sea level.		Selling. 263-ft. above sea level.
January	...	0·46	...	0·53	...	0·79
February	...	2·90	...	3·53	...	4·20
March	...	4·75	...	5·48	...	6·12
April	...	1·34	...	1·49	...	1·85
May	...	1·23	...	0·88	...	1·25
June	...	0·85	...	1·17	...	1·00
July	...	2·80	...	3·40	...	3·41
August	...	0·41	...	0·50	...	0·81
September	...	0·57	...	0·64	...	0·87
October	...	2·31	...	2·41	...	3·70
November	...	3·38	...	3·68	...	4·06
December	...	5·87	...	6·63	...	6·74
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
		26·87-ins.		30·34-ins.		34·8-ins.

Average rainfall in 46 years in Ospringe, 26-in.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Much attention has been given to these in the past year and it is proposed to extend the Bye-laws, which, at present, are only in force in the parishes along the London Road, to the whole district.

Housing (Inspection of District Regulations) 1910.

		1914
The number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909	...	1223
The number of dwelling-houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	1
The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders...	...	1
The number of closing orders made	...	Nil.
The number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders	...	1
The general character of the defects found to exist	Dampness and defective structures	

WATER SUPPLY.

My last annual report referred to the various public water supplies in the district.

A new well has recently been sunk at Hernhill Schools. On analysis it proved to be contaminated with sewage. It was then deemed advisable to test several wells in the immediate neighbourhood. Seven wells were tested and all were found contaminated with sewage. It was, therefore, arranged by the Council that two tanks should be temporarily placed at Hernhill to supply these houses and the school until a public water supply should be carried from Staple Street where there is a good public bore well. The plans have not yet been submitted by the Surveyor to the Council (March 13th, 1915), though a considerable time has elapsed since the analysis were made and there is urgent need of a good water supply to the school.

Boughton Water Extension has not yet been started owing to the first contract having been withdrawn.

SCAVENGING.

The Contract for Scavenging and emptying Cesspools and renewing house refuse in the parishes of Teynham and Lynsted was again renewed last April.

I have had complaints from the Brents that the rubbish has not been emptied away for considerable periods.

DRAINAGE.

OSPRINGE—The Town Council of Faversham has decided to discuss with this Council the possibility of dealing with sewage from Ospringe. This is a very important matter and will, I hope, lead to an efficient main drainage for Ospringe. The respective Council Surveyors have the preparations of plans and suggestions in hand.

TEYNHAM—The excessive rainfall in December again led to difficulties with the efficient emptying of cesspools in Teynham. If the contractors were to work as hard during the summer in fulfilling their contract to empty cesspools there would be less trouble when excess of rainfall causes flooding. Usually, the Contractors after receiving an order to empty a cesspool take one or two loads of the top fluid away and leave the solids. This gives soakaway cesspools no chance and doubles the work required.

A suitable place has now been found for emptying the sewage carts which will lessen the distance the carts have to travel and enable more work to be done in one night than before.

FLIES.

During the summer months 200 large posters were placed in the district explaining the dangers of flies spreading disease and the means to be taken to prevent their propagation and cause their destruction.

This was probably of assistance in producing the low death-rate from diarrhoea and enteritis during the year.

The worst plague of flies in the district is at Conyer, Teynham where there is a large heap of refuse within about 300 yards of the village. This heap is in the Milton Rural District, and I would urge upon the Council to write to that authority urging the advisability of the nuisance being lessened by powdered borax being mixed with the refuse, or the adoption of some method of prevention for this very serious nuisance.

Physical Features of the District and Occupations of the Inhabitants.

See my Annual Report for the year 1908 and my report on the Special Sanitary Survey, 1911.

MILITARY OCCUPATION.

After the outbreak of the war drafts of different regiments were placed at the Guncotton Works at Uplees and the Powder Works at Oare. The sanitation and destruction of refuse at these places have been attended to under the direction of Dr. Candler, L.G.B. Inspector. About 200 troops were also quartered at Syndale House and Perry Court Farm in Ospringe and at various oast houses and hop-picker's huts in Boughton and Hernhill.

I have visited and inspected the sanitary conditions and water supplies and suggested improvements where necessary for the health of the troops.

Up to the present time there has been no notifiable infectious disease amongst the troops billeted in the district.

HOP-PICKING.

A still further improvement was to be seen in many encampments and a further approach to the ideal conditions laid down by Dr. Farrar, the Local Government Board Inspector.

A greater disposition has been shown by growers to provide barrels for the disposal of refuse, but I hope before long the practice will be universal.

The quality of food sold to the pickers, especially meat, shows a marked improvement owing to the constant visits of the Sanitary Surveyor and the Inspector of Nuisances.

A copy of the Bye-laws adopted by the Council last year was sent to all growers, and I would suggest this year that in July copies of Dr. Farrar new Report, 99, 1914, be sent to all growers in July that they may again make themselves acquainted with the recommendations contained in it.

MANURE.

Care is exercised that all cargoes are removed from the Wharves at Conyer and Oare within the specified time and care exercised in their removal.

MILK SUPPLIES.

Under Mr. Caffyn's directions great improvements are noticeable in the new cow-houses erected.

The milk supply continues satisfactory and for the first time in my inspections of cow-houses I found a cowman grooming his cows.

POOR LAW RELIEF.

The Clerk has kindly given me the following figures :—

The figures of expenditure for relief are as follows :—

Year ended 30th September, 1914.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Inmaintenance, 1st half year ...	1567	16	8			
2nd half year ...	1256	10	2			
Out Relief, 1st half year ...	666	3	11½			
2nd half year ...	575	8	5			
	<hr/>			£4065	19	2½

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

May I, before closing this Report, express my appreciation of the very valuable work of the Sanitary Committee which, for the past year, has met once a month to check the work done and discuss with the Sanitary Inspector and me the very many and variable details of our work.

Every order to abate nuisances, make Sanitary improvements structural alterations et hoc genus omne, which is in arrears, is debated, and when necessary, formal notice is served on the owner or occupier and if this is insufficient a statutory notice is served. Except in one case, the tact exercised by the Sanitary Inspector in the first place and the Clerk (Mr. Tassell) in the second, has been sufficient to get all outstanding work done within a reasonable time, and there is a steady and visible improvement in the Sanitary condition of the District.

There still, however, remains very much to be done.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Teynham,

PRIDEAUX SELBY,

15th March, 1915.

Medical Officer of Health.

Appended will be found the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

FAVERSHAM,

January, 1915.

To

DR. PRIDEAUX G. SELBY,

Medical Officer of Health,

Faversham Rural District Council.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report of the work done in my department of the Faversham Rural District Council's Administration.

It has been the custom in former years for the Inspector's Report to take the form of a list of figures indicating the number of notices sent, visits paid, etc., etc.

I think you will agree that a report of this nature cannot in any way convey an adequate idea of the work covered during the year.

It is to-day a recognised fact that the work of the Health Department is one of the most important works of any Council's Administrations, for upon the way that Office is administered, depends, to a large extent, the health, comfort and the well-being of the people.

Seeing, then, the importance of the work and the amount of time and consideration given to it, both by you and the Council, I have taken this opportunity, it being my first year of Office, of presenting to your notice a resume of the work done during the year 1914.

During the year, 3614 visits and re-visits have been made and works have been carried out affecting some 380 houses in addition to trade and other premises.

In many cases the work has been of an extensive nature. The bulk of the works done this year are of a permanent nature and in carrying them out I have endeavoured to maintain a high standard as regards workmanship and materials, believing it to be in the best interests of the owners of property that the works should be executed thoroughly and completely, and I desire to express my thanks to the

many owners who during the year have co-operated with the Sanitary Authority in eradicating many insanitary conditions, at considerable cost to themselves, but with great advantage to the occupiers.

I am afraid that an Inspector is looked upon as a necessary evil—at any rate, the Inspector's position is a difficult one, for he has to look after the interests of his Council and the people they represent, compel Owners to spend money, which they would rather not do, and so manage with the Contractor as to get the requirements done in such a manner as to please all three and without friction. I am pleased, however, to be able to say the year's work has been accomplished, with one exception, without friction, and only in this one case has it been necessary to report legal proceedings.

The mode of procedure adopted in dealing with nuisances, is to issue an informal notice of the existence of certain defects and the intimation is usually accompanied by an offer to meet the Owner, or his representative on the spot to discuss the nature of the notice. This necessitates a great deal of extra work, but the end justifies this, as I find a quiet talk often smooths over a likely breach and the work is ordered to be done.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

The major portion of the work in my department is carried out under this act and the Bye-laws drawn up in accordance with its provisions. In recent years it has been continually augmented and its already extensive powers greatly increased by the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. This, together with the powers possessed under the Acts, designed to deal with Infectious Diseases, the control of Cow Sheds, etc., and Factories and Workshops, constitute the principal factors controlling the administration of Public Health Policy in this District.

The perusal of the list of the principal remedial works, completed during the year, will emphasize the value to the community of the possession of the powers referred to when exercised to a common good by a Council who have for their object and aim the health of the inhabitants of their district.

OFFICE WORK.

This is a very important part of an Inspector's duty. The Inspector is by virtue of his office, compelled to keep a journal of his work and visits. There are, besides this, many Registers to be kept and continually posted up to date. I work, as far as possible, on the loose leaf principle, as I find this system saves much duplication.

During the year I have sent out 246 notices, 135 letters and 117 school notices.

DRAINS & CESSPOOLS.

During the year 222 defects have been remedied under this heading. Whenever possible, man-holes, ventilation and all necessary apparatus to make up-to-date drainage has been adopted, but always with due regard to the condition of the premises and endeavouring always not to bear too hardly on the Owner, but at the same time to get efficiency.

I would like to bring to your notice one matter of importance. Tradesmen are continually repairing and re-opening drains in various parts of our district upon the order of the owner. Many of these works never come to my knowledge and are therefore never inspected. If the Tradesmen would let me know when he receives such orders and has the drain open I could attend and advise and the owner would have the satisfaction of knowing that the drain was in good order and not likely to require attention again.

CLOSETS, &c.

During the year I have given a great deal of attention to privies, as I believe these to be the cause of disease in a great many cases, and, where possible, I have had them converted into water closets or pail closets. Nearly 100 privies have been converted during the year besides these, nearly 100 other defects have been remedied under this heading.

HOUSE REPAIRS & CLEANSING.

During the year, 115 defects under this heading have been remedied. I have attached considerable attention to this branch of work, as the execution of costly work to secure perfect external sanitary conditions is of little benefit if the internal conditions are injurious to health.

Closed windows, insanitary methods of storing food and milk, the advantage of lime-washing, etc., have all had attention, and I have found out that a talk with the occupier, pointing out to him, or her, in as plain a way as possible, the advantage to be derived from attention to these simple Health measures, has been sufficient to ensure their co-operation, and as a result we have sweeter, cleaner and more healthy dwellings.

I am strongly of the opinion that the work of an Inspector should be "Educational" as well as one of execution of works, because, if the occupier sees the necessity and benefit of doing what the Inspector requests, he is more likely to carry out the Inspector's order than he would be if he simply saw an order from the Sanitary Inspector and it conveyed to him nothing more. This work will continue to have my attention.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS.

The work required under this heading is periodical inspection and inquiry into cleansing, ventilation, over-crowding, W. C., accommodation, etc.

There are 86 Registered workshops in the district—including 17 Bakehouses, there are no underground Bakehouses in the district. All the Bakehouses have been visited at least twice during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 13 Slaughter-houses in the district and 397 inspections have been made to them. Several are modern and fairly up-to-date, others are of older type and adapted and have the usual disadvantages of bad design and arrangements. I hope to have several alterations made during the coming year. The one in which most slaughtering is done I have already had reconstructed.

The question of Inspection of Meat, etc., is a very important one. There is, I believe, no doubt that some diseases to which animals are prone are communicated to man, and I am strongly in favour of all meat being inspected and passed before being sold. This, however, in our district, with existing staff, is impossible, but every precaution possible has been taken to ensure good meat going into the market.

The Slaughter-houses have been visited as much as possible on killing days, here again, I have found that a few minutes conversation with the butcher and explanation of the nature of the diseases and their signs in the organs of the animals, has been eagerly listened to, showing plainly the advantage of the educational part of the Inspector's work.

During the year, two whole carcases of beef, one of pork, part carcase of one sheep and various organs, etc., have been condemned and destroyed, and on several occasions I have been called in to advise as to the fitness of the meat for sale. This I am always ready to do if required.

Special attention was given to the food supply of the Hop-picker's, details of which were given in my special report on that matter.

COWSHEDS & DAIRIES.

120 visits have been paid to the cowsheds in the district during the year and many improvements have been made, they are as follows :—

REPAIRS ETC., TO COWSHEDS.

New Cowsheds	...	3
Re-paved and Channelled	...	18
Re-drained and Drains Repaired	...	13
Ventilation & Lighting Improved	...	6
Manure Moved	...	16
Over-crowding	...	1

We have in our district 44 registered premises. Nine names have been removed and seven added to the register.

The number of cows milked is 349.

Approximate amount of milked produced

611 gallons per day.

4277 gallons per week.

223015 gallons per year.

These figures are from actual amounts given by the cow-keeper's of their yields.

About 144,308 gallons are sent out of the district and 78,607 gallons consumed in the district during the year.

The Cow-sheds in the district are now in a fairly satisfactory condition. I do not mean that they are technically perfect in structure and appliances, as that can only apply to new and expensive premises, but having regard to the fact that we have to adapt the buildings in existence on the farms and transform them from sheds into buildings, complying with our Regulations and fit for milking sheds. I do maintain that the Council have no reason to be ashamed of the work they have done in this direction, and I venture to say that our district will compare very favourably with the Cow-sheds in any district in Kent. What remains to be done is principally educational.

DISINFECTION.

During the year, 156 rooms have been disinfected. Teynham Schools have been disinfected twice and Boughton Church School once.

WATER ANALYSES.

Nine samples of water have been analysed, 8 from Hernhill, all of which proved to be unfit for drinking purposes, and the necessary steps are being taken by the Council to provide a wholesome supply to this area. One sample was taken from Lynsted, this proved satisfactory.

NEW HOUSES.

Four Water Certificates have been granted by the Council and two refused (for the time being) during the year.

HOUSING & TOWN PLANNING.

All the houses in the district were inspected and records made previous to my appointment. Many of the houses have been re-inspected and any defects found have been dealt with under the Public Health Act.

No houses have been condemned during the year.

OVER-CROWDING.

During the year, four cases of over-crowding have been dealt with. This question is difficult to satisfactorily deal with on account of the conditions of employment, viz. :—so much wage and house, and if we complain to the owner of over-crowding, the tenant has to quit and one with a smaller family engaged. The cases which have arisen have been very carefully dealt with and no undue hardship has been imposed.

Appended is a detailed list of defects remedied, etc.

In conclusion, I beg to thank you and the Council for the consideration and support I have received in carrying out the duties of my Office. The district I have to cover is a large one and I feel that with the amount of work, which is year by year increasing, the means of other locomotion will probably be advantageously considered by the Council. In these days, up-to-date motors and motor cycles are quickly coming into favour with local Authorities, and there can be no doubt that a great deal more work could be accomplished with this means of locomotion.

Assuring you of my continued efforts to promote the Sanitary welfare of my District.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

H. CAFFYN, A.R.S.I.

INSPECTIONS MADE.

PREMISES INSPECTED.

Mr. Coe ...	...	...	...	26
Mr. Conolly	...	...	...	493
Self ...	...	...	...	704

PREMISES RE-INSPECTED.

Mr. Coe ...	...	...	...	439
Mr. Conolly	...	...	...	942
Self ...	...	...	...	1010

Premises Inspected re Infectious Disease—

Mr. Coe 21, Self 120

Inspections re Water Supplies—

Mr. Coe 4, Self 13

Schools Inspected—

Mr. Coe 4, Self 14

Slaughter-house Inspections—

Mr. Coe 6, Self 391

Cow-sheds and Dairies Inspections—

Mr. Coe 4, Self 166

Factory and Workshop Inspections—

Mr. Coe 6, Self 25

Rooms Disinfected—

156

Complaints received (written)	...	...	20
Notices served (informal)	...	...	245
Notices served (Statutory)	...	...	1
Letters sent	...	...	135
Notices sent to Schools re Infectious Disease	...	...	117

DWELLING HOUSES.

Ventilation Improved	...	...	...	20
Walls Repaired	...	...	...	4
Ceilings „	...	...	...	4
Roofs „	...	...	...	17
Floors „	...	...	...	6
Gutter and Stock Pipes Renewed or Repaired	...	...	...	8
Yards Repaved or Repaired	...	...	...	7
Dampness Remedied	...	...	...	28
Over-crowding Remedied	...	...	...	4
Houses or Rooms Cleansed and Distempered or Papered	...	...	...	15
Windows Repaired	...	...	...	2

DRAINS & CESSPOOLS.

Drains Repaired ...	...	...	...	11
Drains Ventilated ...	...	...	...	10
New Drains Laid ...	...	...	...	10
New Gully Traps Fixed	...	...	...	47
Bell Traps taken out	...	...	...	31
New Grids to Gullies	...	...	...	2
Repairs or Re-new Sinks	...	...	...	23
Repairs Waste Pipes to Sinks...	.	...	...	7
Cleanse and Flush Drains	...	...	...	20
Empty and Cleanse Cesspools...	...	...	...	19
Ventilate Cesspools	...	...	...	6
Repair Cesspools	...	...	...	4
New Cesspools ...	...	...	...	4
New Covers to Cesspools	...	...	...	5
Defective Ventilation Shafts	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous ...	..	...	...	13

CLOSETS, Etc.

New Closets ...	...	...	...	3
Repair Structure ...	...	...	...	34
Privies converted to Earth Closets	...	...	...	36
„ „ „ Water Closets	...	...	...	75
Pans and Traps Renewed	...	...	...	6
Cleansed and Flush Closets	...	...	...	6
Ventilate Closets ...	...	...	...	13
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	36

WATER SUPPLIES.

Close Wells ...	...	...	...	8
Clean Out Wells and Rain Water Tanks ...	...	...	...	5
Repair or Re-new Covers to Wells and Rain Water Tanks				7
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	4

MISCELLANEOUS.

Table I—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

NAME OF DISTRICT, FAVERSHAM RURAL,

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.
			Number.	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1000 Net Births.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
1909	15,100	316		20·93	173	11·8			18	56·9	
1910	15,300	343		22·35	207	13·6			33	96·2	
1911	14,000	304	297	21·21	207	14·6			38	125·0	14
1912	14,000	305	302	21·57	167	11·9	23	18	22	72·1	11·5
1913	14,000	298	296	21·14	185	13·21	31	19	25	84·4	12·35
1914	14,000	328	320	22·85	196	14	40	20	22	72·1	12·57

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)	43,964	}	Total population at all ages ...	14,129	}	At Census, 1911
			Number of Inhabited Houses ...	3,241		(cf. Census, Vol. V.)
			Average No. of persons per house	4·4		

Table II—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NAME OF DISTRICT, FAVERSHAM RURAL.

Notifiable Disease.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						65 and upwards	
		under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65		
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	141	18	107	14	2	...	...	...	101
Erysipelas ...	10	...	...	...	3	...	6	1	...
Scarlet Fever...	30	6	19	5	...	...	...	...	28
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Relapsing Fever (R)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Poliomyelitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18	...	2	6	8	...	2	...	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	2	1	1	1	...	1	..	1
Totals ...	209	26	131	28	14	...	9	1	142

Isolation Hospital—Beacon Hill Hospital of the Faversham Rural Sanitary Authority (not for Tuberculosis).

Small Pox Hospital, Buckland.

The Faversham Urban Isolation Hospitals are at Kennaways and Luddenham in the Rural District.

Table III—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

NAME OF DISTRICT, FAVERSHAM RURAL.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the Districts.
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up'ards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes { Certified Uncertified	170 6	21 1	3 1	5 ...	10 ...	10 ...	14 ..	30 1	77 3	29 2
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	3	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	2
Influenza	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	12	...	...	...	1	3	6	2	...	2
Tuberculous Meningitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	16	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	7	4
Rheumatic Fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ...	25	...	...	...	2	3	2	5	13	3
Bronchitis	17	...	...	...	2	...	1	2	12	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	8	2	2	...	...	...	1	2	1	1
Other Diseases of Respira- tory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis...	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Partuition ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	10	1	...	...	2	1	1	1	4	...
Suicide	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases ...	41	5	1	...	2	2	1	7	23	10
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	3
Totals	176	22	4	5	10	10	14	31	80	31
Sub-Entries.										
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis					Nil.					
Poliomyelitis					Nil.					

Table IV—Faversham Rural District. INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. *Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year of Age.*

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes { Certified Uncertified	... 2	... ..	... ..	... ..	... 2	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... 2
Measles ... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	1
Convulsions 	1	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	1	... ..	... ..	... ..	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	... ..	1	2
Diarrhoea ... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	1	... ..	2
Gastritis ... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	... ..	... ..	... ..	1
Syphilis 	1	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	1
Premature Birth 	8	... ..	... ..	... ..	8	1	1	... ..	... ..	10
Other Causes	2	... ..	... ..	... ..	2	... ..	... ..	... ..	1	3
Totals 	12	... ..	... ..	... ..	12	3	3	1	3	22

NETT BIRTHS IN THE YEAR	Legitimate	.....	304
	Illegitimate	.....	16
NETT DEATHS IN THE YEAR OF	Legitimate Infants	.....	21
	Illegitimate Infants	.....	1

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1914.

For the RURAL DISTRICT OF FAVERSHAM,*On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with***FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.****1—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES***Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.*

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	8	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops including Workshop Laundries) ...	24	„	„
Workplaces other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report ...	Nil.	„	„
Total ...	32	Nil.	„

2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness... ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Want of ventilation	„	„	„	„
Overcrowding	„	„	„	„
Want of drainage of floors	„	„	„	„
Other nuisances	3	3	„	„
Sanitary accommodation. { insufficient	„	„	„	„
{ unsuitable or defective	„	„	„	„
{ not separate for sexes	„	„	„	„
<i>Offences under the Factory & Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	„	„	„	„
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	3	3	„	„
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	„	„	„	„
Total	6	6	Nil.	Nil.

4 - REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.			5 - OTHER MATTERS.	
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.		Number	Class.	Number
Bakehouses	...	17	Matters notified to H/M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Barge and Boat Builders	...	2		
Blacksmiths, &c.	...	12	Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	Nil.
Bootmakers, &c.	...	3		
Builders, &c.	...	14	Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)	Nil.
Carpenters and Wheelwrights	...	15		
Engineering and Cycle Works	...	5	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	Nil.
Flint Digging, &c.	...	6		
Steam Flour Mills and Saw Mills	...	5	Other...	Nil.
Tailors and Saddlers	...	7		
Total Number of Workshops on Register		86	Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	Nil.

